

***Barbara Thompson
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January 16, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

I support the Justice Department's current settlement agreement with Microsoft. I feel that the case is being furthered by jealous competitors, much like the trouble AT&T incurred years ago. Microsoft should be allowed to get on with business.

I'm not a technical-minded person, but I think that Microsoft is a great company that offers innovative products. The terms of the settlement are fair, and Microsoft's concessions will allow for fair business competition. The increased consumer flexibility in selecting different program options will ensure that.

In addition, I feel that Bill Gates has contributed greatly, both financially and with his time, to charitable, cultural, educational, and community organizations. It seems that, proportionate to other companies, his generosity has far exceeded that of other CEOs. I particularly reference foreign automakers following the 9/11 tragedy. His record of giving, I believe, makes a significant and positive impact on every American.

I urge you to settle the Microsoft case as quickly as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Barbara Thompson